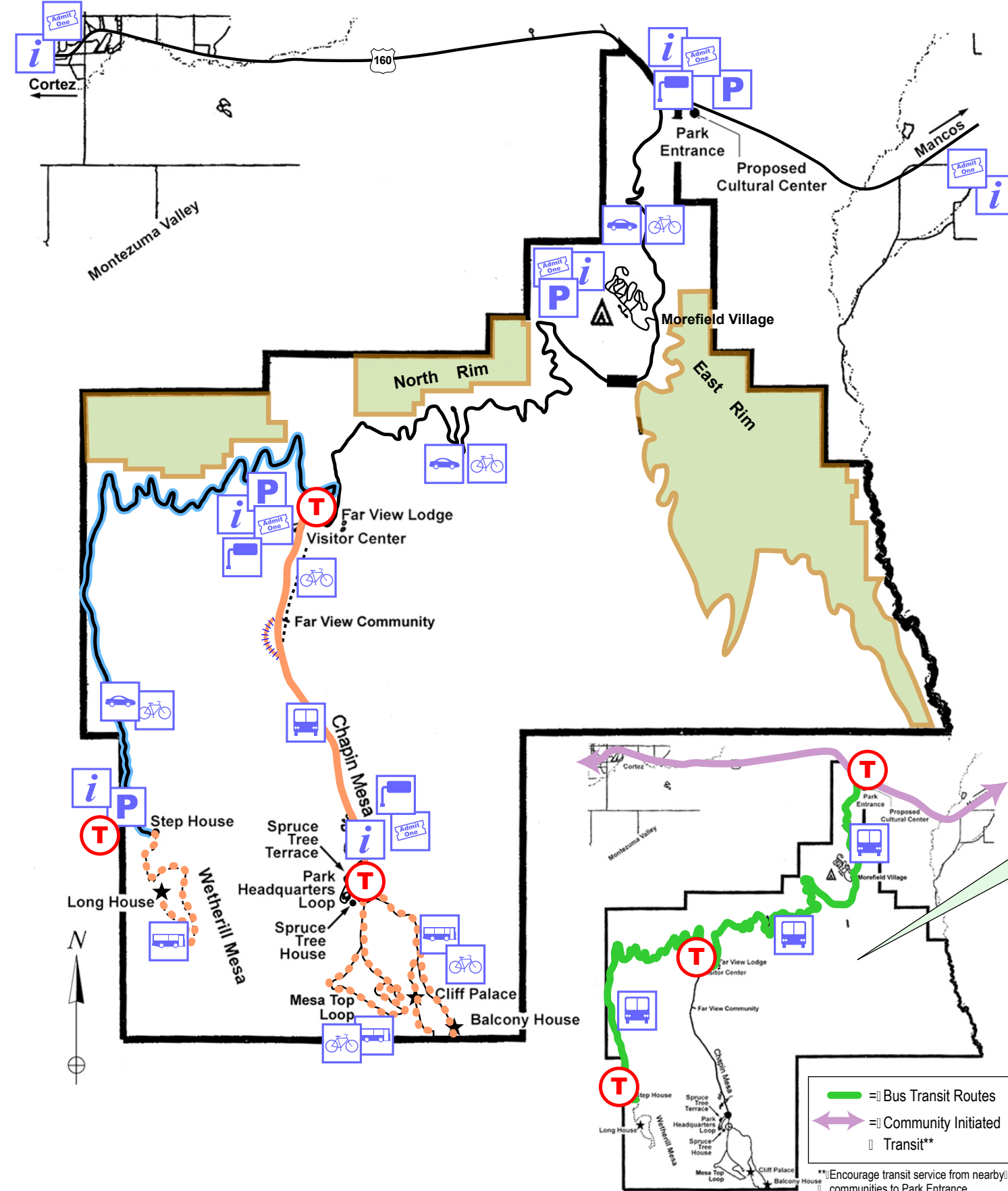


May 25, 2004

Preliminary

Bus Transit Alternative



Bus Transit Alternative

Preliminary Bus Transit Alternative.

Manages visitors and vehicles by adding trails, overlooks and a peak season bus transit service. Buses are used to manage access to ticketed sites and for exclusive visitor access to Chapin Mesa during peak season. Wetherill Mesa is fully reconstructed to NPS road standards, including a designated bike lane, and allows for continued auto access.

Roadway

- Park Entrance Road and Wetherill Mesa Road open to autos.
- No auto access beyond Far View on Chapin Mesa*.
- Provide expanded bus transit stops/turnouts at select overlook locations on Chapin Mesa, Mesa Top Loop and Cliff Palace/Balcony House Loop.
- Reconstruct Wetherill Mesa Road to NPS standard. Add separate bike lane.
- Develop new roadway segment adjacent to Far View Community for bus transit access/stop.
- *All roads are open/retained for administrative vehicle use.

Parking

- Maintain existing parking capacity, plus:
- Increase parking capacity at Far View for Chapin Mesa Bus Transit users.
- Convert portion of parking capacity at Park HQ to transit staging area.

Transit

- Chapin Mesa Road Bus Transit.
- Mesa Top Loop Bus/Tram.
- Develop transit staging areas at Far View and Park HQ.
- Cliff Palace/Balcony House Loop Bus/Tram.
- Wetherill Mesa Loop Bus/Tram (increased frequency).

Tour Bus

- Concessioner-operated.
- Allow concessioner to increase tours as market demands.
- Maintain access for other tour operators.

Optional Phases: Enhanced peak season bus transit service to provide exclusive visitor access along entire park roadway system. Reconstruct Wetherill Mesa Road to accommodate buses.

Roadway

- Park Entrance Road to Far View open for auto access to overnight accommodations only.
- No auto access beyond Far View*.
- Maintain Wetherill Mesa Road to accommodate Bus Transit.
- *All roads are open/retained for administrative vehicle use.

Parking

- Develop main visitor parking at Park Entrance (new Cultural Center).
- Convert additional portion of parking capacity at Far View to transit staging area.

Trails

- Formalize social trails at Morefield Village and harden trail to Kiva.
- Add trail between Far View VC and Far View Community.
- Add/formalize trails to new overlooks.

Bikes

- Permitted on all park roads. Add separate designated bike lane on Wetherill Mesa.
- Provide bike racks on Chapin Mesa Bus Transit vehicles.

Sites/Overlooks

- No new archaeology sites developed.
- Manage existing sites. Increase tour size in peak season and add in-depth tours during off-peak times/season at Cliff Palace.
- Overlooks: Promote existing overlooks and add new locations. Develop overlook tour (see list/maps).

Ticketing

- Same distribution and sites as Enhanced Visitor Management Alternative.

Orientation

- Same as Enhanced Visitor Management Alternative.
- Include information on Bus Transit service and auto restrictions.

Interpretation Opportunities

- Same as Enhanced Visitor Management Alternative.
- Provide interpretation on Chapin Mesa Bus Transit and Bus/Tram Loop Routes on Wetherill and Chapin Mesas.
- Add interpreter(s) for larger tour size during peak season and off-peak in-depth tour at Cliff Palace.

Legend

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| = Roadway | = Visitor Information | = High Frequency Bus/Tram | = Bus/Tram Route |
| = Park Boundary | = Variable Message Sign | = Primary Visitor Parking Facilities | = New Roadway Segment |
| = Wilderness Area | = Autos Permitted | = Trail | = Reconstructed Roadway |
| = Ticketed Sites | = Bikes Permitted | = Transit Terminus/Transfer Node | |
| = Ticket Distribution | = Bus Transit | = Bus Transit Route | |

**Encourage transit service from nearby communities to Park Entrance.